

REMARKS

Drawings:

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that the drawings filed on March 29, 2005 have been approved.

Claim Objections:

The Examiner has objected to Claims 4 and 5 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(c), as failing to further limit the subject matter of the claim from which they depend. These claims have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claim Rejections:

Claims 1-6 are all of the claims that have been examined in the present application, and currently all of the claims stand rejected.

35 U.S.C. § 102(a) Rejection – Claims 1-3:

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being unpatentable over the previously applied Grubb reference. In view of the following discussion, Applicant respectfully traverses the above discussion.

In continuing to reject the claims, the Examiner has essentially maintained the same rejection. In view of the Examiner's comments, Applicant has amended the claims, as shown in the previous section, to make the distinctions between the present invention and the prior art clear.

Namely, the Examiner has stated that “[i]t would be well understood in the art that the pump light signals having various characteristics are ‘selected’ for use in the system.” Office

Action, page 5. Thus, the Examiner appears to be interpreting the claim language as only being directed to “selecting” a polarization for the pump wavelength.

Applicant submits that this is an over-simplified reading of the claim language, and the Examiner is not recognizing that the present invention is directed to maintaining a predefined polarization “difference” between the various pump wavelengths. It is for this reason that Applicant has amended the claims. Namely, to ensure that claims clearly claim the present invention.

In reviewing the disclosure of the Grubb reference, Grubb fails to disclose, teach or suggest maintaining a predetermined “difference” in polarization between one of the pump radiation wavelengths and the remaining pump radiation wavelengths, as set forth in claim 1.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that Grubb fails disclose each and every feature of the claimed invention. Therefore, Grubb fails to anticipate the claimed invention, as required under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 102(a). Accordingly, Applicant hereby requests the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the above 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) rejection of claims 1-3.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejection – Claim 6:

Claim 6 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Grubb reference. However, as this claim depends on claim 1, Applicant submits that this claim is also allowable, at least by reason of its dependence.

Conclusion:

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

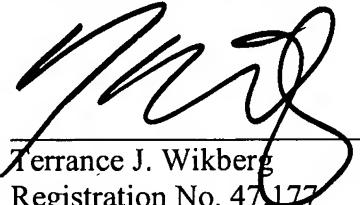
AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116
Application Number: 10/084,884

Our Ref: Q68485
Art Unit: 2633

Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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